

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06260 01 OF 02 171355Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13
AID-05 MCT-01 SSM-03 DHA-02 /086 W
-----171423Z 113649 /43

O R 171304Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2352
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 6260

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PK
SUBJ: POLITICAL SITUATION: BHUTTO ADDRESSED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

REF: ISLAMABAD 6204

1. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO ADDRESSED THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON JUNE 16, DECLARING THAT HE HAS AGREED TO NEW ELECTIONS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST. THE PPP, HE ASSERTED, WILL BE RETURNED WITH ANOTHER SWEEPING MANDATE ONCE THE PEOPLE COMPREHEND THE NATURE OF THE CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE COUNTRY. PPP SECRETARY GENERAL AND FEDERAL MINISTER FOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 06260 01 OF 02 171355Z

RAILWAYS DR. BHULAM HUSSAIN SAYS THE PPP WILL WIN BY A HUGE MAJORITY -- THE PLOT BY JEWS AND STOOGES TO DEFEAT BHUTTO WILL FAIL. THE TWO-MAN SUBCOMMITTEE MET ON JUNE 16 TO BEGIN WORKING OUT THE DETAILS OF THE ELECTION ACCORD. G.M. KHAR IS SWORN IN AS POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER. END SUMMARY.

2. IN AN UNSCHEDULED SPEECH IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON JUNE 16, PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO DISCUSSED THE BACKGROUND OF THE ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH THE OPPOSITION, ASSERTING THAT IT WAS HIS DUTY TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTION AND PRESERVE DEMOCRATIC RULE. EXPLAINING WHY HE AGREED TO HOLD ELECTIONS AGAIN AFTER DECLARING IN MAY THAT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD NOT BE DISSOLVED, BHUTTO SAID "CERTAIN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND INFORMATION" WERE NOT KNOWN TO HIM THEN. THE PEOPLE'S SENTIMENTS AND ASPIRATIONS, HE ALLOWED, HAVE TO BE RETAKEN

INTO ACCOUNT "EVEN THOUGH THEY MIGHT BE WRONG SOMETIMES." THE PM RECALLED THAT HE HAD OFFERED TO RESIGN, BUT HIS PARTY ASKED HIM TO REMAIN AND PURSUE A DIALOGUE WITH THE OPPOSITION. IT WAS NOT HIS PURPOSE, HE SAID, TO HURT THE COUNTRY BY TAKING AN ARROGANT AND RIGID APPROACH. WHEN THE TIME CAME FOR "CERTAIN ADJUSTMENTS" TO BE MADE, HE AGREED TO NEW ELECTIONS.

3. THE PM INDICATED THAT THE SUBCOMMITTEE WORKING OUT THE DETAILS OF THE ACCORD WOULD FINISH ITS DELIBERATIONS EARLY NEXT WEEK. SOME OF THE ISSUES, HE REMARKED, INVOLVED LIFTING THE EMERGENCY AND RELEASING PRISONERS, WHICH HE HAD CONCEDED IN THE PAST MIGHT BE DONE IN THE CONTEXT OF RESTORING NORMAL CONDITIONS AND IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN. HE SAID NO DATE HAS BEEN FIXED FOR THE ELECTIONS, BUT NOTED THAT THEY WOULD BE HELD SOMETIME AFTER RAMAZAN.

4. OBSERVING THAT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ANY MEMBER OF CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 06260 01 OF 02 171355Z

HIS PARTY TO BE DEMORALIZED, BHUTTO ASSERTED THAT THE FUTURE BELONGED TO THE PPP. HE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT HE WOULD LEAD THE PARTY -- A REVOLUTIONARY, STRONG AND UNITED PARTY -- TO "A GREATER VICTORY AND A GREATER PAKISTAN." AS TIME PASSES, HE CONFIDED, THE PEOPLE WOULD SEE THE SITUATION MORE CLEARLY AND UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE MASSIVE CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE COUNTRY; IN THAT PROCESS THE PPP WOULD EMERGE VICTORIOUS. AT THE SAME TIME, THE PM EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS NO ROOM IN THE PARTY FOR THE TIMID OR WEAK OF HEART. ANY WHO ARE, HE SAID, SHOULD LEAVE THE PARTY NOW, FOR PPP MEMBERS WILL HAVE TO WORK NIGHT AND DAY IN THE NEXT CAMPAIGN.

5. THE PNA, HE REMARKED, WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FORM A SINGLE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, NOT TO MENTION A FEDERAL CABINET, EVEN IF IT WON THE ELECTIONS. THEY WOULD RUN AMOK AND DESTROY THE COUNTRY, HE ASSERTED. HE DEPLORED THE ABUSED THE PNA HAD HURLED AT THE ARMED FORCES, WHO WERE ONLY DOING THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY WHEN THEY INTERVENED

ON APRIL 21 TO SAVE THE COUNTRY FROM DISASTER.

6. IN A BRIEF COMMENT ON THE FEDERAL BUDGET, BHUTTO SAID IT REFLECTED THE HARM DONE TO THE ECONOMY BY THE BAD COTTON CROP AND THE VIOLENT RIOTS OF RECENT MONTHS. UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, HE ADMITTED, THERE WAS PROPORTIONATELY MORE MONEY FOR DEFENSE THAN DEVELOPMENT, BUT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS IMBALANCE WOULD BE RECTIFIED IN THE FUTURE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06260 02 OF 02 171417Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13
AID-05 MCT-01 SSM-03 DHA-02 /086 W
-----171423Z 114036 /43

O R 171304Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2353

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 06260

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

7. ADDRESSING A GROUP OF LABORERS AND PPP WORKERS IN RAWAL-PINDI ON JUNE 16, PPP SECRETARY GENERAL AND FEDERAL MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS DR. GHULAM HUSSAIN WHO HAS BEEN OUTSPOKEN IN THE ANTI-US CAMPAIGN, DECLARED THAT THE PPP WILL WIN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION BY A LARGER MWPORITY THAN BEFORE. BHUTTO, HE SAID, IS A CVRMPION OF ISLAM AND THE THIRD WORLD, WHICH IS WHY THE JEWS AND IMPERIALIST STOOGES OPPOSE HIM. FORTUNATELY,

HE WENT

ON, THE PRIME MHBNIISTER SUCCESSFULLY FRUSTRATED THEIR
NEFARIOUS DESIGNS AND FOUND A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT TO THENRRRISIS.
HE REFERRED TO RECENT STATEMENTS BY PNA LEADERS IN PESHAWAR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 06260 02 OF 02 171417Z

(BEGUM WALI KHAN AND SHER BAZ MAZARI) THAT WALI KTAN WOULD BE
RELEASED IF THE PNA CAME TO POWER AND CALLED THEM TRAITORS.

8. THE TWO-MAN SUBCOMMITTEE COMPOSED OF FEDERAL FINANCE MIN-
ISTER HAFEEZ PIRZADA AND PROFESSOR GHAFOR MET JUNE 16 TO BEGIN
TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF THE ELECTION ACCORD BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT AND THE PNA. THE TWO CONFERRED ALONE -- NO LEGAL
ADVISERS TOOK PART -- FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS AND AGREED TO MEET
AGAIN THE NEXT DAY. PROFESSOR GHAFOR BRIEFED PNA LEADERS ABOUT
THE MEETING THAT EVENING; NEITHER SIDE MADE ANY PUBLIC STATE-
MENTS ABOUT THE TALKS, WHICH SO FAR APPEAR TO BE PROCEEDING
SMOOTHLY.

9. GHULAM MUSTAFA KHAR, FORMER GOVERNOR AND CHIEF MINISTER OF
PUNJAB WHO JOINED THE OPPOSITION A YEAR AND A HALF FOLLOWING A
DRAMATIC BREAK WITH BHUTTO, HAS COME FULL CIRCLE. THE PRESS
ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 17 THAT KHAR, WHO RECENTLY LEFT THE PAKISTAN
MUSLIM LEAGUE AND REJOINED THE PPP, HAS BEEN APPOINTED A A
POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER. MOST INFORMED OBSERVERS
FORMERLY THOUGHT HE WOULD STAKE OUT A POSITION FOR HIMSELF
OUTSIDE ANY OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES AND NOT MAKE ANY MAJOR
MOVE UNTIL THE DUST SETTLED. HOWEVER, SINCE BHUTTO AND KHAR
HAVE CONSIDERABLE RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S POLITICAL ABILITIES
AND COMPLETE DISTRUST OF EACH OTHER'S HONOR AND INTENTIONS,
PERHAPS A RECEMENTING OF THEIR UNEASY ALLIANCE IS IN THEIR MUTUAL
INTEREST. IN THAT WAY THEY COULD AT LEAST KEEP A WARY EYE ON
EACH OTHER WHILE PLANNING THEIR POLITICAL FUTURES. THE RETURN
OF KHAR TO THE BHUTTO FOLD ALSO GIVES BHUTTO A SAVVY POLITICAL
ADVISOR ON PUNJABI POLITICS - ALTHOUGH KHAR IS STILL DISLIKED,
INTENSELY BY SOME, IN THE PROVINCE. IT ALSO GIVES KHAR A MANTLE
OF IMPORTANCE AND FAVOR THAT HE WILL ENJOY IN SPITE OF THE
OBVIOUS TAIN OF OPPORTUNISM INVOLVED.

10. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE ACCORD WITH THE OPPOSITION HAS NOT
YET BEEN SIGNED, BHUTTO'S SPEECH IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
CLEARLY REPRESENTS THE GOVERNMENT'S OPENING SALVO IN THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 06260 02 OF 02 171417Z

ELECTION CAMPAIGN. THE PM TOOK THE HIGH ROAD, EXPLAINING THAT
HE HAD ACTED IN STATEMSMANLIKE FASHION TO SAVE DEMOCRACY AND

THE CONSTITUTION. HE LEFT NO DOUBT THAT THE MASSIVE CONSPIRACIES WOULD BE A KEY CAMPAIGN ISSUE. DESPITE HIS TALK THAT THE PEOPLE ARE WITH HIM, HIS EXHORTATIONS TO THE PPP HAD A HOLLOW RING. THE PM KNOWS THAT THE DECISION TO HOLD NEW ELECTIONS IS NOT POPULAR WITH PARTY MEMBERS, AND HE TRIED TO CAJOLE THEM WITH TALK OF VICTORY ON THE ONE HAND, WHILE THREATENING THE WEAK SISTERS TO GET OUT ON THE OTHER.

11. GHULAM HUSSAIN'S PEP TALK TO PPP WORKERS OFFERS ANOTHER SAMPLT OF THE KIND OF CAMPAIGN RHETORIC THAT LIES AHEAD, FILLED WITH IMPRECATIONS AGAINST JEWS, STOOGES AND TRAITORS. WITH MUSTAFA KHAR INTRIGUING BEHIND THE SCENES AND BHUTTO ATTACKING INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRATORS, ONE CAN EXPECT A ROUGH AND TUMBLE ELECTION CONTEST INCLUDING CHARGES OF US INTERFERENCE IN PAKISTANI POLITICS.
CONSTABLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ISLAMA06260
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770217-0081
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770646/aaaabohq.tel
Line Count: 240
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d809fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ISLAMABAD 6204
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2115486
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL SITUATION: BHUTTO ADDRESSED NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
TAGS: PINT, PK, (BHUTTO, ALI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d809fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009